

## Khomeini's condition 'deteriorates'

AMMAN (AP) — Iranian leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's condition was reported deteriorating Saturday, 11 days after he underwent surgery for bleeding in his digestive system. Iran's state-run radio and television announced in Tehran, where the Ayatollah Khomeini's office said: "At 3:05 p.m. (11:30 GMT) on Saturday a complication arose in the human's condition, which our doctors are trying to control. We pray the nation to pray for the human's health, and hope that their prayers will be answered."

Television followed its regular evening newscast with film of Khomeini in his hospital bed receiving surgery, interspersed with shots of friends at their prayer sessions. The Ayatollah's speech has been shown briefly since the revolutionary patriarch underwent surgery at a Tehran hospital May 23 to control intestinal bleeding. There was no immediate indication that Iran's official media were preparing the nation for an announcement of his death. But the report that Khomeini's condition had worsened made a sharp contrast with earlier medical bulletins stressing that he was making a normal recovery and taking solid food.

# Jordan Times

An independent political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

جordan Times يومية ساسية معاصرة بالإنجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية «الرأي»

Volume 14 Number 4101

AMMAN SUNDAY, JUNE 4, 1989, SHAWWAL 30, 1409

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

Dozens killed, hundreds wounded

## Troops storm Peking square

PEKING (Agencies) — Troops smashed into the heart of Peking early Sunday killing at least 28 people on the way and surrounded and fired on Tiananmen Square where protesters huddled around the monument to the People's Heroes.

At least 28 deaths were confirmed by witnesses and doctors. More than 200 were wounded.

"I have just had my last cigarette. Tonight we are going to die," said a crying worker at the monument as red flares soared overhead and gunfire was heard.

Students chanted "Drop your weapons" and sang the International anthem.

One man at the Xidan intersection two kilometres west of the square received a gunshot wound in the chest as truckloads of troops rammed through barricades set up by citizens. A medical student on the scene said the man's heart had stopped beating and there was "little hope" for his survival.

The troops walked into the square, firing as they moved, at first firing over the heads of protesters but later lowering their aim.

Some workers around the monument tried to hurl petrol bombs at the advancing soldiers, but students urged non-violence.

Thousands of troops armed with rifles marched up the east side of the vast square from about 1 a.m. (1600 GMT Saturday). They fired tracer bullets across Tiananmen, occupied by up to 200,000 pro-democracy students and their supporters.

People were killed by pellets and rubber bullets. Others showed "casings" from live ammunition.

Students threw Molotov cocktails and other objects at them, while troops beat those who obstructed their path with sticks.

One armoured personnel carrier

rammed into a burning bus and burst into flames.

Two people inside were dragged out by the crowds and beaten severely.

Students chanted "Drop your weapons" and sang the International anthem.

The area immediately northwest of Tiananmen was littered with abandoned and burning military vehicles.

One woman who said she was married to one of the soldiers in Peking said: "The People's Army has become a fascist army, pointing guns at their own people."

Her husband had been ordered not to discuss the democracy movement with anyone, not even his own family, she said.

Witnesses said the troops fired weapons and used armoured personnel carriers to crash through barricades early Sunday in a determined assault.

In some areas troops appeared to hold upper hand, in others frenzied mobs attacked troops, and in still other sections near the square residents initially peacefully halted the flow of hundreds of trucks.

Two armoured personnel carriers



Chinese students argue with policemen outside police headquarters in Peking in protest against the detention of some union workers earlier this week.

## 12 wounded in W. Bank and Gaza

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Israeli troops shot and wounded 12 Palestinians in the occupied territories Saturday.

A leading Israeli legislator in the Labour Party called on the attorney-general to prosecute a Jewish settler leader for justifying the slaying of an Arab teenage girl and saying that the blood of Jews was different than the blood of no Jew.

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The wounded included an 11-year-old boy who was shot in the

leg. A five-year-old child was also injured when he was struck with rubber bullets. He was taken to Gaza's Shifa hospital where he is in good condition.

In the West Bank, troops shot and wounded four Palestinians, including a 17-year-old girl.

Three of the wounded were cousins who were shot as the army raided the village of Al-Zawiya, as part of a sweep for Palestinians suspected of carrying out anti-Israeli attacks.

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## U.N. chief says outline of Cyprus accord discernible

NICOSIA (AP) — Talks between the Greek and Turkish Cypriot leaders for the reunification of the war-divided island have reached a point where the outline of an agreement is discernible, U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar said Saturday.

"I hope that this trend will continue so that I shall be able to report to the council positive results after my meeting with the two leaders at the end of June," the U.N. chief added in his bi-annual report to the Security Council.

The report was released here by the headquarters of the U.N. peaceforce which patrols a buffer zone splitting the Turkish-occupied north from the Greek Cypriot-controlled southern part of the island.

Perez de Cuellar succeeded in restarting the deadlocked Cyprus peace process last August after a break of nearly three years.

Three rounds of talks have been held between Greek Cypriot leader, George Vassiliou, president of the internationally recognised Cyprus government, and veteran Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Denktash, the president of a breakaway state in the north, which is recognised only by Turkey.

"The talks in which the leaders of the two sides have engaged in since last August have progressed to the point where the contours of an overall agreement are discernible," Perez de Cuellar said in his report.

He added that over the past month the two leaders have "been engaged in an exercise to prepare an outline for an overall

agreement."

"The objective is to define the solutions for the issues that make up the Cyprus problem, and to set out the principles and procedures for translating the outline into an overall agreement."

"The discussions have brought out a number of specific ideas that could go a long way in resolving major issues," Perez de Cuellar added, without revealing details of the points of progress.

Perez de Cuellar set a June 1 deadline for the two leaders who brought them together for the first time in Geneva in August.

But despite nine months of intensive talks the two leaders have been unable to hammer out a settlement and were given until the end of June by Perez de Cuellar to break the deadlock in their negotiations.

### Contradiction

Perez de Cuellar's optimistic assessment of a possible breakthrough is contradicted by recent statements by both Cypriot leaders.

Vassiliou has blamed Turkish intransigence for the lack of progress. "We have submitted comprehensive proposals for the solution of all aspects of the Cyprus problem. World opinion agrees with us that our proposals are honourable, reasonable and

can lead to an agreement," he declared in a speech this week.

The two sides have agreed in principle on the establishment of a bi-zonal federation with the 550,000 Greek Cypriot majority sharing power with the 120,000 Turkish Cypriot minority.

But they disagree strongly on the powers of the central government. The Greek side also balks at the permanent presence of Turkish troops in Cyprus as part of a guarantee of the island's independence, coupled with a right of unilateral intervention.

In a recent interview Vassiliou said: "We have accepted a complete federal system, whereas the Turkish proposals speak of two separate states with some weak cooperation."

"This is not a settlement formula, but a formula for constant friction."

Denktash said that the extension of the June 1 deadline will give them a chance to "draw up a document to establish what differences are."

He added that if it proves impossible to bridge the differences that will be pinpointed "we will either try to continue the dialogue to try to find new avenues of reconciliation, or we will say the affair ends here. You want one thing, we want another."

The Greek Cypriot side argues that a settlement must be based on Security Council resolutions that demand the withdrawal of an estimated 30,000 Turkish troops and 50,000 mainland settlers from north Cyprus and the return of 200,000 Greek Cypriot refugees to their homes there.



THE HISTORIC MEETING... Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak (right) and Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi meet in Casablanca,

Morocco, during the May 23-26 Arab summit signalling an end to a decade of Egyptian-Libyan hostility

## Egypt-Libya rapprochement 'faster than anyone expected'

By Myra Macdonald  
Reuters

CAIRO — Egypt is moving towards ending years of hostility with Libya's Muammar Qaddafi but some Egyptians are wary of new relations with the Arab World's most unpredictable leader.

Government sources said an official delegation would fly to Libya Sunday for talks aimed at rapprochement between Egypt, the Arab World's most populous country, and Libya, its smaller neighbour.

They reopened their border less than a week after Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak met Qaddafi at the Casablanca summit which readmitted Egypt to the Arab League.

Libyans are arriving in Egypt at the frontier post of Salioum on the and Mediterranean coast. Some come to visit families for the first time in a decade.

Egyptian airspace is to be reopened to Libya and normal flights between the two countries could resume as early as Wednesday, the government sources said.

Qaddafi is also said to have agreed to compensate thousands of Egyptian workers expelled when Egypt signed its treaty with Israel in 1979.

"Everything is moving much faster than anyone expected," said a government source who forecast that diplomatic relations could be restored within weeks.

But other government sources said Cairo would move much more carefully because many people remain wary of Qaddafi, who began the 1970s pushing for a merger with Egypt and ended

the decade calling for the overthrow of its government.

"I think Mubarak is very cautious that his relationship with Libya must go step by step," said Makram Mohammad Ahmed, editor of the political weekly Al-Mussawar magazine. "We expect Qaddafi will be. But nobody can have a guarantee."

The border had been closed since a brief war in 1977. Its reopening has not been officially announced in Cairo.

But people have begun to flow quietly in both directions through Salioum, which is separated from the nearest main town by 200 kilometres of desert.

The history of Egypt's relations with Libya is enough to make many Egyptians suspicious, despite the warm embrace Mubarak received in Casablanca from Qaddafi.

Both countries talked about a merger less than two decades ago and as many as 200,000 Egyptians travelled across the border to work in the oil-rich but sparsely-populated country.

Some radicals still believe that a union with Libya could be the answer to Egypt's growing problem of over-population.

But relations deteriorated when Qaddafi condemned former President Anwar Sadat's handling of the 1973 war with Israel.

The enmity erupted into open warfare during the four-day border war in 1977. Sadat's peace treaty with the Zionist state was the end of the road for the fiercely anti-Israeli Qaddafi.

On its side, Egypt has accused Libya of plotting sabotage attacks and attempting to kill Libyan exiles living here.

## Arab Gulf states face rising unemployment

By Mariam Al Khalifa  
Reuters

of

the six member Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) to replace expatriates with citizens, imported labour still outnumbers locals, especially in the private sector.

With more than half their people under the age of 20 and the population multiplying at a near record rate of 3.6 per cent, Gulf officials are worried about finding jobs for their citizens.

A U.N. study has predicted the total population in GCC members Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) will swell to 27.9 million by the year 2000 from 15 million in 1985 and 18.6 million in 1989.

### Main reasons

"We have unemployment at the moment and it could be as high as 10 per cent ... this is not acceptable," Bahrain's Labour Director Abdal Rahman Zayani told Reuters.

Zayani said there were three main reasons for the problem: slower economic growth due to lower oil prices, more young people entering the workforce, and the availability of cheap

foreign labour which flooded the region in the late 1970s.

To reverse the trend, the government has launched a scheme to replace 20,000 expatriates in the private sector with Bahrainis during the next five years.

It targeted 13 occupations ranging from drivers to hotel staff and sent letters to 400 firms asking each to comply with an individually-designed replacement plan by June 1994.

The study assumed no economic growth — if there is growth we have no objections to the companies keeping the foreign labour as long as they also employ the Bahrainis," Zayani said.

The economies of Arab Gulf states were hard hit by flagging oil prices in 1986 and 1987 but have since begun to recover.

Only one third of Bahrain's population is foreign, compared with two thirds in neighbouring Kuwait, Qatar and the UAE. But the other states face similar problems.

In Saudi Arabia, expatriates also form one third of the 13 million-strong population and foreign workers hold at least 90 per cent of the jobs in the

kingdom's private sector.

An official report published in a Saudi daily last October said the number of "job-seekers" within the kingdom had risen 13 per cent in 1987 from the previous year. It gave no figures.

### Saudi efforts

Officials say the kingdom's next five-year plan — due to begin when the Hijra year 1410 starts in August — will stress manpower development and the part private firms can play.

At a huge investment conference which ended in the port of Jeddah Wednesday, Prince Majed, governor of the Mecca province, urged Saudi business to hire more nationals.

"The government is trying to encourage private firms to employ more Saudis but many don't want to as this means they would have to pay two or three times the salary and won't get the same hours out of them," one Riyadh-based diplomat said.

Another problem is the Saudis all want jobs in administration or management and

there are only so many of these available in the economy."

The diplomat said that although the Saudi government — as in other Gulf states — was the largest single employer of nationals, it was no longer an employer of last resort.

Less than two per cent of privately employed workers in Kuwait, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) are nationals. In Bahrain, officials put the total at 25 per cent.

Kuwait says it spends an average of 1,500 dinars (\$5,100) a year on subsidies to each foreigner in the country and is considering ways of transferring some of the cost to their employers.

UAE authorities have recently announced plans to put its nationals in all 50,000 government jobs — one fifth of which are now held by its citizens — in order to assimilate local school graduates.

Most GCC states have made sweeping progress in putting their citizens in state-run industries, but have made little headway in convincing private firms to follow suit.

Economists say this is partly because more people need to be trained in manufacturing, technical and industrial skills.

Gulf universities could provide the long-term requirements for business and professional people but were not meeting current manpower needs or facing the challenge of making blue-collar jobs more socially acceptable, they add.

"The most important thing which makes this region different from others is that you don't have to create employment opportunities — they are there, but are filled by expatriates, Gulf international bank economist Henry Azam said.

"What is needed is proper training and the scaling down of wage aspirations," he told Reuters.

But officials and diplomats say the tide is turning.

"There is no question that attitudes are changing — many young Saudis have accepted posts their older brothers wouldn't have dreamed of doing," the Riyadh-based diplomat said.

## MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

### Arabs withdraw ITU proposal

NICE, France (R) — Saudi Arabia has withdrawn a proposal to expel Israel from the United Nations International Telecommunications Union (ITU). The proposal, put forward last November by Saudi Arabia, Syria and Qatar, was removed from the agenda of the ITU's six-week conference which began in Nice Friday. "In the name of international detente looked for by the world community, the Arab delegations at the conference decided not to pursue the issue," said Saudi Deputy Minister of Posts and Telecommunications Faisal Zaidan said. Arab countries had accused Israel of interrupting telecommunications in the occupied territories and preventing the Palestinian people from exercising their right under the ITU convention. The co-ordination step was in response to demands by some delegates who asked for the political issue to be dropped so the conference could get on with its work, Zaidan said.

### Mitterrand visits Tunisia tomorrow

TUNIS (R) — French President Francois Mitterrand will start a two-day state visit to Tunisia Monday, the Foreign Ministry announced. It will be the first official visit by a Western head of state since President Zine Al Abidine Ibn Ali took power in November 1987. Tunisia is home to the headquarters of the Palestine Liberation Organisation but French diplomats said no meeting was scheduled between the French president and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat. Arafat made an official visit to Paris May 2. Mitterrand will travel to the southern Tunisian oasis of Tamerza Tuesday and give a press conference before returning to Paris.

### Iran ponders population growth

NICOSIA (AP) — Iranian President Ali Khamenei hinted at the need to check population growth Friday, but stopped short of advocating birth control in the Islamic state. The official Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) quoted Khamenei as telling tens of thousands of faithful during the weekly prayer meeting in Tehran: "Don't make an excuse out of the Prophet (Mohammad) if you want to have more children." He explained that in its early days Islam advocated large families because there were only about 100,000 people in the Arabian peninsula. "But this does not mean that for the rest of history every Muslim family is obliged to have 8, 10 or 12 kids," Khamenei said. His sermon reflected in increasing concern by the Iranian government over the rate of population growth. IRNA said the government was trying to encourage people, apparently only in some rural areas, to use contraceptives. But there was no national plan to reduce the rate of population growth which at 3.7 per cent annually is one of the highest in the world, it added. IRNA said Iran's population according to the latest census is over 50 million and is expected to reach 100 million in 20 years.

### Leftists disrupt university exams

RABAT (R) — Protests by leftist groups are threatening to paralyse several Moroccan universities where students are being urged to boycott end-of-year examinations, officials and opposition party sources said Friday. But academic sources said the situation was normal at the main universities in Rabat and Casablanca, where exams had taken place on schedule. Ahmad Alaoui, senior government minister without portfolio, denounced the protest action at universities in Fez, Oujda, Tetouan and Meknes. In an editorial in the pro-government daily Maroc Soir, Alaoui said a "small group of professional subversives" were using violence and torture to enforce an examination boycott. They were demanding an end to the expulsion of students who failed exams, the continued payment of scholarships until graduates find jobs and the readmission of all drop-outs. Alaoui described the demands as scandalous and urged the government to react vigorously to prevent students losing a whole academic year.

### Thais urge U.S. restraint

BANGKOK (AP) — A Thai official urged the United States to act with restraint Friday over the issue of a factory in Libya which Washington claims is a chemical weapons plant employing Thai workers. In Washington, a State Department official said Thursday that the U.S. government was pressing Thailand to arrange the repatriation of an estimated 270 Thais from the disputed factory complex at Rabta. But Deputy Foreign Office spokesman Prachayadai Tavedikul said it was unclear whether Thai workers were employed at the Rabta plant. "The U.S. has told us that no action would be taken against Libya, we hope that the United States will continue to use reason rather than violence," Prachayadai said. "We don't know if there are workers there. We have conflicting information, we have to rely on what the Libyans say and they have assured there are no Thais at Rabta," he said. He said, however, that a Foreign Ministry official was in Libya to review the situation and that Bangkok has drawn up a contingency plan to evacuate Thai workers if necessary, he said. Prachayadai said 25,000 Thais were working mainly in the construction industry in Libya, while Libyan officials have said as many as 70,000 Thais were working in their country.

### Gorbachev sends regret to Greece

ATHENS (AP) — Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev sent a message to Premier Andreas Papandreou Friday expressing regret that his foreign minister had to abruptly postpone a visit to Greece, the government spokesman said. Foreign Minister Eduard A. Shevardnadze cancelled a three-day official visit to Greece Monday, two days before it was set to begin. Government spokesman Sotiris Kostopoulos said Gorbachev's message was delivered to the premier by the Soviet envoy in Athens. "President Gorbachev expressed his regret for the temporary postponement of Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze's visit to Greece, stressing that he attributes great significance to this visit, which he hopes will take place soon," Kostopoulos said. Earlier this week, Soviet Ambassador Anatoly Sliousov told reports that the foreign minister postponed his visit because he had to attend a session of the Congress of Peoples Deputies in Moscow. Shevardnadze's planned visit triggered a series of protests from opposition parties, which charged that Papandreou's governing Panhellenic Socialist Movement (Pasok) was planning to use the trip to its benefit in the campaign for June 18 national elections.

### Other Flights (Terminal 2)

19:30 ... New York, Amsterdam (KLM) ... 06:25 ... Rome (AZZ)

18:28 ... Paris (KLM) ... 18:00 ... Damascus, Paris (AF) ... 18:00 ... Cairo (MS)

18:45 ... Madrid, Geneva (KLM) ... 18:25 ... Kiew (KU)

18:55 ... Brussels, Frankfurt (KLM) ... 18:25 ... Doha, Sharjah (GF)

19:00 ... London (BA) ... 18:45 ... Tripoli (LN)

19:40 ... Ankara (KLM) ... 18:00 ... Beirut (LB) ... 18:00 ... Doha (DO)

20:45 ... Rome (KLM) ... 20:25 ... Seoul (KE) ... 20:30 ... Athens (OA)

01:15 ... Baghdad (KLM) ... 20:25 ... Rome (AZZ) ... 23:30 ... Athens (OA)

### MARKET PRICES

Uppercase price in dinar per kg.

## New department takes charge of E. Amman

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Ziad Ibn Shaker Saturday inaugurated a Greater Amman municipality department entrusted with supervising municipal work in the Nasr and other districts in the eastern areas of the capital.

The new complex comprises offices, two libraries, including one for children, and a multi-purpose hall surrounded by a 3.5-hectare public garden.

The prime minister inspected the complex, the second of its type in the Amman region, set up to help promote the municipality's work in the capital's suburbs. The first complex was set up in Basman and was opened last

week during the Kingdom's celebrations of Independence Day.

The Nasr complex will be in charge of services for 127,087 inhabitants living in Jabal Taj, Jabal Jofeh, Hay Um Tineh, Manara, Alia Al Gharbi, Hay Rabwe, Jabal Nasr, Haman, the Prince Hassan camp and the Khatib district.

Sbari Ziad met with representatives of youth clubs, women organisations and local communities to discuss municipal services to their region. Greater Amman Mayor Abdil Raouf Al Rawabdeh and municipal council members were present at the meeting and the inauguration ceremony.

## 21 female adult students honoured

AMMAN (J.T.) — A group of 21 female adult learners at literacy centres set up by the Ministry of Education was honoured at a ceremony Saturday for their distinctive work and excellent learning performance.

The ceremony was addressed by Dr. Abdulla Al Khatib, president of the General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS), who outlined the national effort in the battle against illiteracy and the joint efforts of the Ministry of Education and GUVS in achieving this end.

The aim of the Ministry of Education is to reduce the current illiterate population of 15 per cent to 10 per cent by the end of the century, Khatib said.

His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan inspects architectural projects by University of Jordan's faculty of engineering students

## Prince inspects architectural display

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan

Saturday visited the University of Jordan and inspected an exhibition of architectural designs by university students. The designs include projects that would be carried out in Jordan in the course of the 1986-1990 Five-Year National Development Plan.

Prince Hassan referred to a meeting by ACC countries due to convene this summer in North Yemen, and said that it was designed to promote cooperation among the four countries — Jordan, Egypt, North Yemen and Iraq.

Altogether, 49 architectural designs are on display at the exhibition prepared by 10 male and female students of the engineering faculty's graduating class.

### Graduation

According to an announcement by the University of Jordan, ceremonies for graduating students from various faculties will take place on four separate dates. It is said that June 6, 1989 has been assigned for the graduation of students from the faculties of arts, and economics; June 7, for those from the Shari'a and physical education; June 8, students from the faculties of sciences, medicine, agriculture, nursing, pharmacy and engineering, and June 11, students from the faculties of dentistry and post graduate studies.

## U.N. mission — routinish but credible, accurate

By Ghadeer Taher  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — With both sides of the Arab-Israeli conflict playing the media game, trying to give the world, especially the West, the "right" picture of the situation in the Middle East, thus leading to distortions and inaccuracies, a special U.N. committee on Israeli practices provides an accurate picture of Israel's occupation of the West Bank, the Gaza Strip and the Golan Heights.

For the last 22 years, the Israelis have waged a very successful media campaign to dehumanise the "enemy" and to retain world sympathy even in the face of the most flagrant of violations. This is no longer the case. The 18-month-old intifada has stolen the show and brought the Palestinian tragedy into the lime-light.

Since its creation in 1968, the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting Human Rights of the Population of the Occupied Territories has never been granted Israeli permission to visit the West Bank, the Gaza Strip or the Golan Heights. But, the Israeli defiance has not managed to dent the determination of the committee to file

regular annual reports on the realities in the occupied territories, mostly taken from witnesses.

The three-member committee, made up of representatives from Sri Lanka, Yugoslavia and Senegal, also draws heavily from reports in newspapers, Israeli as well as Arab. It pays regular visits to Jordan, Syria and Egypt and interviews Palestinians from the occupied territories as well as other first-hand witnesses of Israeli practices.

The annual reports drawn up by the panel, chaired by Sri Lanka, offer an in-depth picture of the effects of Israeli occupation on the Palestinian people. They cover general developments and policy statements, judicial issues, harassment and physical violence practised by the occupation forces against the Palestinians, expulsions, collective punishments such as house demolitions as well as economic repression — in other words, the outstanding trademarks of the occupation.

The conclusion of the committee's last report to the General Assembly, submitted Oct. 24, 1988, was bleaker than ever. It said the Palestinians were facing a level of violence and repression "never reached in the course of the 21 years of occupation."

In the course of its work this

year, the committee recently visited Syria and Jordan and interviewed Palestinians expelled by the occupation authorities from the West Bank as well as Palestinians undergoing treatment for injuries received in clashes with Israeli troops.

To ensure credibility and accuracy in its annual report, the committee uses two methods. First, it corroborates witnesses' testimony with events recorded in the daily Arab and Israeli press, and the second is intensive questioning and only when the three members of the committee are assured of the credibility, is the account recorded, according to the chairman of the committee, Daya Parera who is the permanent representative of Sri Lanka at the United Nations.

"In 1987, one of our conclusions was that the situation was becoming critical and reaching an explosive level, which was prophetic of the intifada," Parera told the Jordan Times in an interview before leaving Amman for Cairo. The intifada began in December 1987.

In 1988 "we saw an alarming picture of economic repression as well as a tremendous escalation in violence (and) physical repression," he said. "We saw fearful injuries caused by plastic and

rubber bullets, which are actually metal balls coated in rubber."

The committee also found reaffirmation of its earlier findings of a definite pattern of economic repression of the Palestinians by the Israeli authorities, Parera said. "We saw the uprooting of trees and the delays on the bridge when Palestinians were trying to export their products to Jordan, therefore destroying the fruits and vegetables," he said. "This is a typical method of harassment."

He revealed that a large number of complaints of torture was corroborated by medical evidence.

The committee's report is acted upon by the General Assembly which usually adopts resolutions condemning the Israeli measures and urging the Zionist state of abide by international laws and conventions related to occupation and treatment of civilians under occupation.

Although the 1989 report is completed yet, one of its main features is expected to be the mounting Israeli violence against Palestinians.

He cited as an example the increase in attacks mounted against Palestinians by Jewish settlers in the occupied territories with what is unmistakably official connivance. "We have been very fortunate in that regard because in Jordan we took the testimony of a person who was present at (a violent incident) which occurred about a week ago," he recounted.

"He (the witness) gave a graphic description of attacks by settlers

## AFESD agrees to finance part of Jordan-Egypt power linkage project

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan and Egypt have reached initial agreement with the Arab World for Economic and Social Development (AFESD) on AFESD financing for linking Jordanian and Egyptian national power grids, Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) Director General Mohammad Saeed Arafa announced Saturday.

The project, which is expected to begin in 1990 and to be completed by 1993, will entail a 300-kilometre 500-kilovolt line linking Suez in Egypt and Aqaba. Arafa said in a statement upon returning from a meeting on the project held in Cairo where the agreement with the AFESD was concluded.

Egypt and Jordan had been working closely with the French firm "Electricite de France" in this regard.

Arafa said the linkage with Egypt would help the two sides deal with emergency power shortages and benefit from low-cost power produced by either side.

Official JEA statistics indicate that Jordan's overall power consumption currently stands at 500 megawatts but that overall production capacity when all stations are operational is likely to be 900 megawatts.

The linkage of power grids was approved by the Joint Jordanian-Egyptian Higher Committee in 1986 when Cairo and Amman decided to embark on measures in this connection to upgrade their transformer and power-generating stations.

Jordan's grid was connected with Syria's in 1981 with a 230-kilovolt line and the two countries have since been exchanging

power wherever there was use for such practice.

Last March, Jordan and four Middle Eastern countries reached agreement on power grid interconnection in region and to promote cooperation among themselves in energy-related fields.

The five countries — Jordan, Egypt, Syria, Turkey and Iraq — also chose Amman to serve as the headquarters of a technical committee comprising delegations from the five states to plan projects in the course of carrying out the programme.

The Islamic Development Bank and the AFESD which were represented at the meeting said they would finance the project.

Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Hisham Al Khatib was quoted in March as saying that Iraq and Jordan were studying the prospect of linking their grids and the way was of open for power grid linkage with other Arab states in the region.

The Turkish and Iraqi grids are already linked and Iraq is currently supplying parts of Turkey with electric power.

Energy officials and specialists from Jordan and Egypt believe that the Jordanian-Egyptian linkage project will cost \$170 million.

## 'Arab power generation needs investments, maintenance'

AMMAN (Petra) — Annual demand on electric power in the Arab World is growing at the rate of seven to 10 per cent and further investments in power generation and distribution are urgently needed and maintenance work on installations is essential to meet future needs. Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) Director General Mohammad Saeed Arafa said here Saturday.

By adopting sound techniques and methods in maintenance and by manufacturing spare parts for power generation units and equipment, the Arab World can reduce expenditure, Arafa noted.

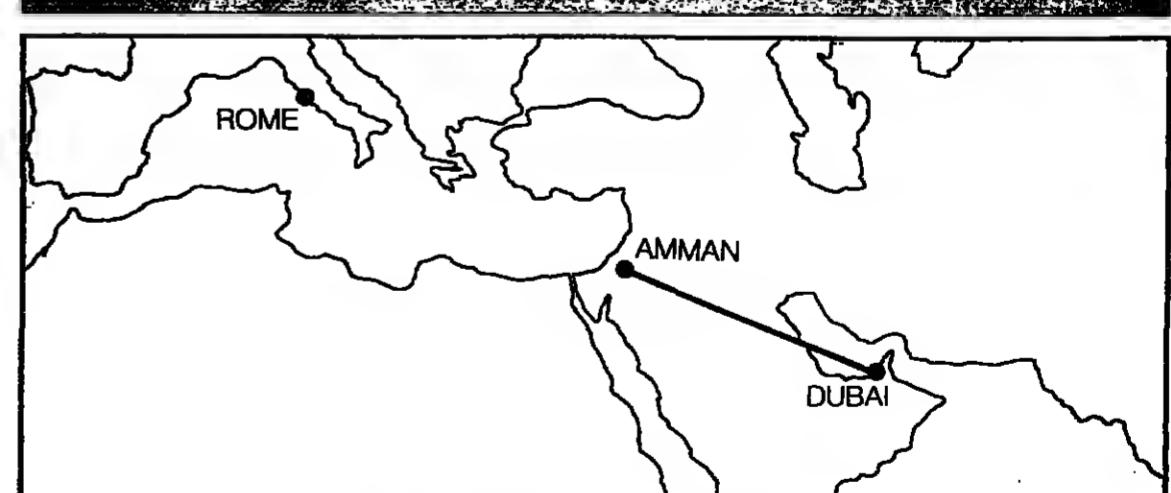
A mere one per cent improvement in maintenance and performance of generating units will save up to \$500 million annually, Arafa added.

The opening session was addressed by Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Hisham Al Khatib who said that despite huge investments in energy production projects in the Arab region, there was still lack of proper maintenance on installations and thus leading to complications and increased operational costs.

The participants will discuss working papers on maintenance and distribution of power, electric networks in the Arab region and the experiences of Sweden in power generation, among other topics.

They will also tour power installations in Jordan including the Aqaba Thermal Power Station.

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4074 WEEKLY FLIGHTS 96 DESTINATIONS IN THE WORLD

## WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

### EXHIBITIONS

- ★ An archaeological exhibition entitled "The Treasures of Hasma Desert" at the Department of Antiquities Registration Centre.
- ★ An art exhibition by three North African artists at Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation.
- ★ An art exhibition by Ahmad Abu Othman at the Housing Bank Gallery.
- ★ An exhibition by French artist "Olivier Mutilloid" at the French Cultural Centre.
- ★ An art exhibition by Jordanian and Arab artists at Al Wasiti Art Gallery.
- ★ An art exhibition by Nihad Qutaishat at Al Quds (Jerusalem) Hotel.
- ★ An exhibition entitled "Jadworkshop" displaying cartoons by Lebanese artist George Khouri (Jad) at the Goethe Institute.
- ★ The Royal Jordanian Geographic Centre exhibition which includes maps, aerial photographs, digital maps and remote sensing at the Royal Cultural Centre.

### LECTURE

- ★ A lecture in French, entitled "The Arab Orient and French Geographers" by Andre Bourgey at the French Cultural Centre — 6:00 p.m.
- ★ A feature film entitled "Stage Door" at the American Centre — 7:00 p.m.

### FILM

## Arab resolution to call for special ILO panel on Palestine

AMMAN (Petra) — The 76th meeting of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) which opens sessions in Geneva Wednesday is expected to discuss in detail a report by a special ILO team on the condition of Arab workers under Israeli occupation and Israel's human rights violations, Minister of Labour Jamal Bdour said Saturday.

The ILO meeting, which will be attended by delegates from 150 countries, will examine the report, based on the findings of investigations carried out in implementation of ILO resolutions of 1974 and 1980, the minister said shortly before leaving for Geneva to take part in the ILO meeting.

The 1974 and 1980 ILO resolutions condemned Israel's racist policies, its violation of workers' rights and its establishment of settlements on Arab-owned land in Palestine, the minister said.

The Jordanian delegation to the 22-day conference groups representatives of the government, Jordanian employers and workers.

## Jordan Times

Local and regional news political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation

الجordan times جريدة عربية محلية ودولية

Editorial Director:  
RAKAN AL MAJALI  
Director General:  
DR. RADI AL WAQFI  
Editor-in-Chief:  
DR. WALEED M. SADI

Editorial and advertising offices:  
Jordan Press Foundation  
University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.  
Telephone: 667171-6, 670141-4, 684311, 684366  
Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO  
Facsimile: 661242

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays.  
Subscription and advertising rates are available from the  
Jordan Times Advertising Department.

## Last chance for Lebanon

THE ARAB League "troika" on Lebanon — King Hassan of Morocco, King Fahd of Saudi Arabia and Chadli Benjedid of Algeria — today begin the difficult task of hammering out a political settlement to the 15-year-old Lebanese bloodbath. The responsibilities that the Arab League has entrusted to the three leaders look awesome, seen in the light of the realities on the ground in Lebanon and the deep rift drenched in blood between the warring factions in the country, but, the Arab World pins high hopes that the diplomatic experience and influence that the three veteran statesmen represent will bear fruit. Perhaps, that is the only light at the end of the tunnel for Lebanon and for all those interested in seeing peace and tranquility restored to that country. No matter how one looks at it, one thing is clear and simple: The central issues at stake in Lebanon have to be taken by the horn and shaken. Anything short of that will not work. Too much water has flown under the Arab bridge to hope that today's meeting in Morocco could produce miracles to settle the Lebanese strife. Fundamental reforms have to be brought about in the country and its constitution and unwritten covenants should be altered in a manner just and fair to all concerned. Those who hold out for less or more need their arms twisted and there is none more qualified to do that job other than the leaders of Morocco, Saudi Arabia and Algeria.

There is little doubt that a solution to the conflict has to come from the Arab World, and Arab World alone. We have seen the superpowers are more than happy to skirt around Lebanon when it comes to decisive action; the U.S., which burnt itself very badly with the short-sighted policies adopted by the Reagan White House, cannot be dragged to taste anymore of Lebanese waters. The Soviet Union has signalled on more than one occasion that it cannot be expected to play any meaningful role in the imbroglio. No doubt for the better for all concerned, since any internationalisation of the issue would only create more complications and dead ends. But the danger is still there of intervention by non-Arab powers which pose the threat of deepening religious animosities in the country.

We can draw some comfort from the fact that the Arab League "troika" was named by the Casablanca summit, which offered the right forum for airing different Arab viewpoints and deep deliberations over Lebanon. To be sure, conflicting positions were stated and understood. In a way it has lightened the task of the heads-of-state committee since the immediate necessity of a mini-summit of Arab leaders has been eliminated. But, sooner or later, such a gathering is inevitable simply because the fundamental elements in the Lebanese scene are very complex and need the highest level of understanding by Arab leaders. By the same token, today's deliberations unmistakably represent what could be easily described as the last chance for Lebanon. We hope the chance will not go to waste and that it will be the beginning of an end to the violence and rivalries plaguing Lebanon and not the other way around.

## JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i daily newspaper Saturday elaborated on a meeting to open Sunday in Rabat by a three-member higher committee to look into means of ending the Lebanese crisis. The paper said that with the start of the committee's work, the hopes of the Arab masses in general and the Lebanese people in particular grow and optimism increases, specially as the ceasefire in the embattled city of Beirut still holds. The Lebanese question has originally motivated the Arab summit, and the Arab leaders who set up this committee at the level of heads of state displayed determination to go ahead with serious efforts to resolve the internal Lebanese conflict, the paper noted. But the committee, the paper added, has a formidable task awaiting it, if the Arabs are to see the end of the dark tunnel in Lebanon and a new dawn of peace and security for its people. The salvation of Lebanon represents a tough test for the Arab League and the three-member committee both of which realise that strenuous efforts are needed and cooperation with all parties is required if a solution is to be reached, the paper noted. It said the sufferings of the Lebanese people should prompt the committee to intensify all efforts to reach a lasting settlement.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily focuses attention on agriculture in Jordan as being the backbone of the national economy and one that requires serious and constant attention. Salah Abdul Samad says that the Ministry of Agriculture realises that the agricultural sector faces numerous problems and it will be advisable to take the initiative of involving as many concerned people as possible in solving these issues. The writer proposes constant consultation with representatives of the local farmers and open dialogues with experts and agricultural engineers on topics that would help promote production and marketing. Abdul Samad says criticism, assessment and discussion are all part of process designed to help the country and the farmers achieve the best results, and therefore such practice can and should be adopted. This process, he adds, can be conducted through the media and open meetings and gatherings at any level.

Al Dustour daily also dwells on the Lebanese question and the developments on the Lebanese scene over the past 14 years. The paper said that Lebanon is indeed a bleeding wound in the body of the Arab World; and is being made worse through negative effects on Lebanon as a result of regional and international developments. But, it added, the Arab summit of Casablanca has brought Lebanon a new hope with the formation of a high level Arab committee entrusted with taking all possible measures to end the conflict and the civil strife in Lebanon. The heads of state of Saudi Arabia, Algeria and Morocco who are meeting Sunday to embark on their task in Lebanon face a tough mission ahead. But, the paper added, as long as the ceasefire continues to hold and as long as the warring parties are willing to cooperate, hopes for a settlement will grow, and the road for peace will be paved.

## Sunday's Economic Pulse

# Sell correction programme to the people

AMMAN — The Association of Banks in Jordan hosted a lecture by Dr. Abdul Shakour Shaalan, director of the Middle East Department of the International Monetary Fund (IMF). The lecture, which attracted a selected group of bankers and economists, took place last Wednesday and was also attended by two ministers. The topic was the Jordanian economic restructuring and adjustment programme for the years 1989-1993.

I was lucky to attend this valuable lecture and to participate in the question and answer session that followed the lecture.

I am not going to summarise the policies, objectives and procedures that were touched upon. Nevertheless, I am going to share reflections and insights with my readers.

Last week, an official told the public that the purpose of the IMF programme was to enable Jordan repay its debts. This may be true in the longer run, because a healthy and growing economy is of course more able to service its debts and meet its commitments, but the real purpose of the programme is to correct distortions and dislocations of the economy, to reduce deficit in the budget and current account of the balance of payments and to try to help the country function and live within its own means. Had the aim of the programme been to squeeze the Jordanian people and starve the masses so that the creditors may get more, we would not be interested in supporting such a programme. The correction and restructuring is needed even if all our debts were

written off by a strike of the pen. The repayment of debts is therefore the last of our worries.

In an answer to a question Shaalan stated that within the five-year duration of the programme there would be no net transfer of funds outside. On the contrary, the inflow from the IMF, the World Bank, and the creditors will exceed the outflow, so that the gap will be filled. This obviously confirms our view that the programme is not meant solely to repay the creditors but to get closer to self sufficiency and correct our deviations.

The programme has some public relations stuff to sweeten its bitter taste, such as the protection of the poor and limited income groups, the control of inflation, and the achievement of economic growth.

We doubt whether the programme does actually has solid and specific steps to achieve these three desired objectives. We must admit that it is more likely that the poor and the limited income groups will not be immune from sharing in the cost to one extent or another. The inflation is not escapable in the light of lower exchange rate, and economic growth may not be expected to stem for the public sector who does not have sufficient resources for investment and must reduce, rather than expand, its expenditure.

The success of the programme is crucially dependent on a clear and whole-hearted commitment from the government, coupled

with understanding, conviction, and acceptance by the people. It is not enough to accept the programme hesitantly and half-heartedly. Therefore the programme should be presented and convinced to the public at large. There is no hope that the government can perform its duties under the programme unless the people were convinced that it is in the best of their interest in the present and the future, and that the programme will not starve them for the benefit of the creditors and that the cost to the people will be much higher if the programme was not adopted and implemented.

I tried my best both in the Jordan Times and the Al Ra'i newspapers to swim against the stream and mobilise support to the economic correction programme, out of a sense of responsibility. Needless to say that such endeavour was costly on personal basis. Such a major mission cannot be performed by one person, irrespective of his share of credibility and courage. It is the responsibility of the economic team of the new government. Either they believe in the programme or they don't. If they don't, they should come up with their alternative programme. If they do, they should try to demonstrate their commitment, and sell the programme to the people, using all media outlets, in an atmosphere of free dialogue. Time is very short, and we have little room for waiting before we make up our minds and proceed forcefully in the right direction.

## OPEN FORUM

### Christianity and Islam

By William H. Taylor

Godfrey Jansen's article, Christianity and Islam — a generation gap (Jordan Times, page 4, June 3, 1989) cannot be allowed to go unchallenged. He makes a number of erroneous and misleading assumptions.

Jansen's simplistic and inaccurate assumptions are these: that Islam is a young religion of the "South and East" and that Christianity is an old religion of the "North and West". He continually equates Christianity with the West, and the Christian faith with decadence, even terminal, decline.

Christianity and Islam share a common background of Semitic theology and culture of Palestine and Arabia respectively. Many of the formative influences on the Nascent Christian church and its development were identical with those on emergent Islam, both during the lifetime of the Prophet, and in the period following his death. Palestine, of course, was more influenced by Hellenistic thought forms than Arabia, but the basis of both the Gospels and the Koran, and the communities of faith which produced them, remain firmly in the Semitic world.

So much for origins. What of the contemporary scene? Like Islam, Christianity can now claim to be emphatically present in the developing world. I write as an Anglican priest who last year was on the staff of the Lambeth Conference in Britain, now working in an Arab church under Arab bishops. My recent and present experience of the Christian faith is emphatically non-European. The Lambeth Conference brings together Anglican bishops from the worldwide Anglican communion once every ten years. The majority of bishops in the communion are now black, reflecting the fact that the church is growing fastest in Africa. What is true for the Anglican communion in both Africa and the new Pacific basin is also true for the Roman Catholic church in South America and Africa.

Organised monotheistic faiths such as Christianity and Islam throughout their long histories have seen different "epicentres", and different emphasis within the expression of faith. In Christianity, the early epicentre was the Eastern Mediterranean. It might be argued that the epicentre then shifted to Continental Europe, and now has shifted again to the developing world — principally sub-Saharan Africa, South America, and the new Pacific basin. Within Islam, there is cultural variety too. African Muslims do not perceive the Rosicrucian affair, to take one example, to be an expression of a decadent and effete Christian culture being challenged by the youthful vigour of Islam, for they recognise it for the distortion it is. Or to take an Asian example of true cultural exchange and cooperation, where in the Philippines, the Filipino National Council of Churches campaigned successfully for the appointment of a cabinet minister to protect Muslim interests.

As in history, so in the present. Islam and Christianity have much in common. Rejection of distortion of the truth is one of those characteristics, whether it be the gross distortions of truth in the writings of Salman Rushdie, or the cynical distortions of truth of those who seek to capitalise on conflict and controversy. If Mr. Jansen needs encouragement in this, he should look to the developing world which he hypocritically overlooks. He might even find the Koranic injunction to be true:

"Thou shalt assuredly find the closest of them in friendship towards the believers to be those who say: We are Christians." — Surah 5 (Al Maida): 82.

The Revd. Dr. William Taylor is an Anglican priest in Amman and on the staff of the Anglican Bishop in Jerusalem.

## Bhutto heads to U.S. in most important foreign visit since taking office

By Mohammed Aftab  
The Associated Press

ISLAMABAD — Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto heads to the United States next week on one of the most important foreign visits of her brief rule.

Bhutto is to arrive June 5 in the United States for a high-profile tour that is to include talks with U.S. President George Bush, Secretary of State James Baker and congressional leaders.

Bhutto said that issues topping her agenda will be economic and military aid and narcotics control.

"The primary message of the visit and the talks will be that freedom has returned to Pakistan. It is not only a success for the people of Pakistan but for all those who believe in freedom," she said.

The Western-educated Bhutto, 35, is the first woman to head a modern Muslim state and has attracted much favourable attention in the West. But many of her constituents have been less enamored.

"There is no place in Islam for a woman leader," says Maulana Samiul Haq, a vocal opposition leader in the Senate or upper house of the parliament.

Bhutto maintains a working relationship with bipartisan Presi-

dent Ghulam Ishaq Khan, 73. Her relationship with the powerful army leadership, the third element in Pakistan's political chemistry, is "a kind of yellow alert, a look-and-see," according to one senior military official.

"When politicians fail, the army has always taken over through martial law," warns Nawabzada Nasrullah Khan, a veteran opposition parliamentarian, while counselling Bhutto and her rivals to adopt a policy of accommodation.

Pakistan's annual inflation rate is now 18 per cent. The country is also saddled with a sizeable budget deficit. Bhutto came into power warning she inherited a bankrupt economy.

Money for government-financed utilities, education, medicine and communication is scarce. The national budget due next week will be a tough one, and may leave many people unhappy.

Political and economic problems are growing. A senior Western diplomat blamed "inexperience and intolerance."

Her harshest critics chide her government for its lack of exper-



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# Our planet's wellbeing — a primary concern

**NEW YORK** — Mankind is becoming increasingly concerned about the wellbeing of its planet, the Earth. This is the main conclusion being drawn from a survey of public opinion and leadership attitudes commissioned by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

The environment was becoming an important political issue globally, although specific threats and problems were viewed with differing levels of alarm. Nevertheless, certain general attitudes were found to be increasingly prevalent: the investigation showed.

Pessimism about the future was common, according to the poll, claimed to be the first comprehensive, international study of opinions regarding the environment.

Carried out between February and June of last year, the survey involved more than 6,000 members of the public and 700 people in positions of national influence in Argentina, China, Hungary, India, Japan, Jamaica, Kenya, Mexico, Nigeria, Norway, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, West Germany and Zimbabwe.

It was found that ecological concerns long felt in countries such as Norway and West Germany were now beginning to be shared by Argentina, China, Japan and Mexico, although this feeling was less prevalent in poorer developing nations such as India, Jamaica, Kenya, Nigeria and Senegal.

Apart from those in Saudi Arabia, most of those questioned felt that there had been decline in the quality of their environment

over the previous decade. Thus, more than six out of ten of those interviewed India believed that their environment was worse than it was ten years previously. And in China more than eight out of ten people described their environment as merely "poor to fair".

With the exception of the Japanese, most people were willing to provide labour or cash to help improve their environment.

More than six out of ten ordinary Mexicans, backed by eight out of ten of their leaders, feared that their environment would be "much worse" in 50 years if current trends persisted.

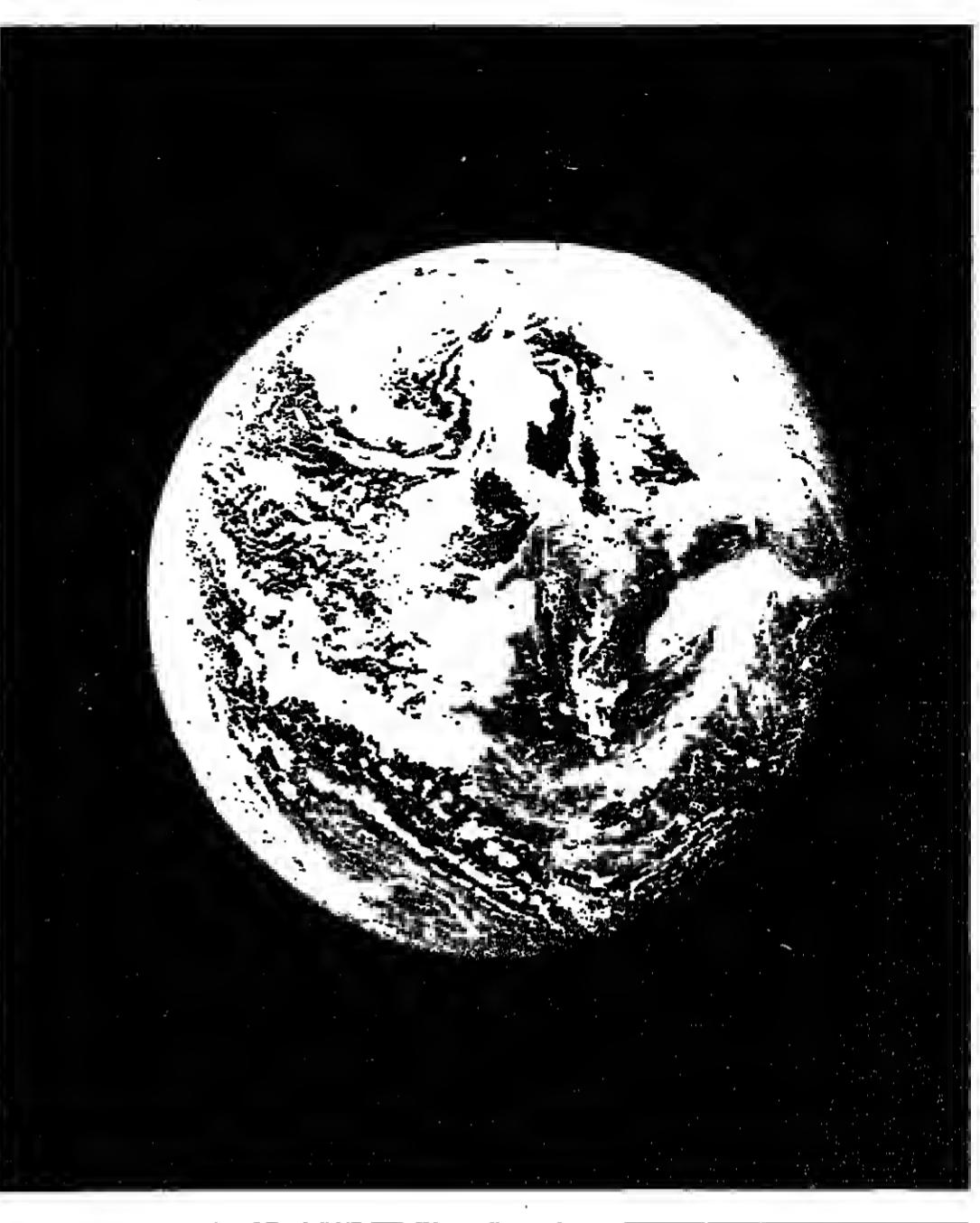
In the African countries the survey found the principal concern to be the loss of forest cover and good farmland, the degradation of both air and water, as well

as the dumping of toxic waste. But in Norway and West Germany the problems triggered off by climatic change were a major worry.

The survey's findings are echoed in the increasing prominence now being given to environmental issues on the international agenda.

This is highlighted by the current meeting in Nairobi of the governing council of UNEP. It was hoped that delegates from about 70 countries would take decisions which would bring a long-term, global plan of action a step nearer.

According to Dr. Mostafa Tolba, the executive director of the Kenya-based U.N. offshoot, the meeting could prove a watershed in the battle against environmental degradation. It would either



show that governments meant business, or it would be a continuation of talking and doing nothing, he added.

Dr. Tolba wants UNEP to be given greater powers, including financial resources, so that it can play a more effective role. A particular dream of his is to see the creation of an ecological "Security Council" which would become the world's environmental policeman.

The Nairobi gathering followed closely on a meeting in Geneva of members of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, established jointly by UNEP and a sister agency, the World Meteorological Organisation. This is due to report next year. Global environment issues will also loom large at July's session of the U.N.'s Economic and Social Council and at its General Assembly in the autumn.

Britain has used the council as a platform to call for a worldwide effort to combat the so-called greenhouse effect. It suggested the creation of an international convention to tackle the potentially disastrous warming of the atmosphere.

This is being caused by the build-up of gases, resulting largely from the burning of fossil fuels. More was expected to be heard of the British proposal at the UNEP meeting.

It must be admitted that the tourist wave is now so big that it is often impossible for ordinary travellers to get a seat on an Israel-Cyprus flight, booked up months in advance by Soviet groups.

For political reasons, there are no direct flights between Tel Aviv and Moscow. The Kremlin has

not restored diplomatic relations with Israel, severed during the 1967 Middle East war, although the two countries have exchanged

consular missions.

Aviation sources said the Soviet state airline Aeroflot and Israel's national carrier El Al have had indirect contacts about starting a Moscow-Tel Aviv route to capitalise on the lucrative tourism market.

But political obstacles had prevented such a move so far.

"In the end we think this will

promote Jewish emigration to Israel," a senior immigration official said.

The boom is exceptional at a time when the Palestinian uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip has plunged the Israeli tourist industry into the doldrums.

But the Soviet Jews are not high-speeding visitors. Having spent their hard currency on videos, most stay with their relatives while in Israel. Few book

trips in advance.

Comrades, please identify your luggage and leave your video recorders with the baggage handlers," she shouts over the bubbly of Russian, Georgian and Yiddish as the bus crosses the Larnaca airport tarmac.

**Jewish emigration on the rise**

After nine years of cold war during which Jewish emigration plummeted from a record 50,000 in 1979 to a few hundred a year, the gates opened again to larger numbers in 1987.

Last year some 24,000 Jews left the Soviet Union forever — only about 2,500 of them chose to settle in Israel — while another 10,000 Soviet Jews visited Israel as tourists.

Foreign ministry spokesman Motti Amitai said the number of Soviet tourists was now running at about 2,000 per month.

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## Top French banker calls for firmer monetary stability

PARIS (R) — The Group of Seven (G-7) top Western industrial nations, suffering from see-saw fluctuations in the dollar, should tighten coordination on exchange rates to bring greater stability to their currencies, French central bank chief Jacques De Larosiere said Saturday.

Expanding on an idea proposed Wednesday by President Francois Mitterrand, De Larosiere said present G-7 currency coordination, based on the 1985 Plaza and 1987 Louvre accords and supplemented by central bank intervention, should be extended.

"Major industrialised states have begun the process of economic and exchange rate policy coordination," he said. "It is essential that this process should continue and grow."

De Larosiere made his remarks in a speech to the foreign exchange dealers association meeting in Lisbon.

A former governor of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), De Larosiere said the Washington-based agency's responsibility for surveillance of exchange rates may be one practical method of achieving managed currencies.

This "cannot fail to help the return to a greater formalisation of exchange rate rules," he said. "At the level of the international monetary system, this is the essential basis on which to succeed."

Mitterrand first proposed the idea to economy ministers of the 24 member nations of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) during their annual meeting in Paris last week.

The OECD came up with no clear solution to the dollar's surge which threatens to reverse a correction in trade imbalances and has exposed the fragile nature of G-7 coordination.

Though the French president has not yet proposed placing managed currencies on the agenda of the G-7 summit in Paris on July 14, economists believe he

### G-10 gives boost to Brady plan

On another monetary issue, major industrial nations gave broad backing Friday to a U.S. plan to slash the Third World's \$1.3 trillion debt but they warned commercial bank lenders not to expect a bail-out by taxpayers.

Endorsement by the Group of 10 (G-10) was a welcome boost for U.S. Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady after strong criticism of Washington's trade and budget policies at the OECD.

Further support for Brady's controversial initiative, which



Nicholas Brady

Jacques De Larosiere

aims to spur economic growth in developing countries by persuading banks to forgive part of their loans, is likely at a seven-nation economic summit in Paris next month.

Economists noted however that a similar managed currency suggestion made by Edouard Balladur, finance minister under the right-of-centre Jacques Chirac government, found little international support in 1987.

De Larosiere said floating exchange rates, which began in 1971 with the end of the Bretton Woods fixed rate system, were increasingly being called into question.

Floating was not, as hoped, freed domestic policies from international influence. It had not eliminated trade imbalances between major nations, nor deterred currency speculation.

By contrast, the stability brought by confidential G-7 currency ranges backed by central bank intervention had reduced uncertainty of financial markets, improved the economic climate and encouraged growth in investment and world trade, he said.

Progress has been slow with Mexico, the Third World's second biggest borrower with external debts estimated at \$107 billion, demanding concessions that the banks have so far refused to make.

But Dini saw a good chance of an agreement before too long, and John Reed, chairman of Citibank, the biggest U.S. bank, said in a French newspaper interview published Friday that a deal could be struck within the next two weeks.

Dini was the author of a report on the debt strategy that was approved here in Berne Friday by finance ministers and central bank governors of G-10 countries.

The IMF and World Bank, whose directors recently agreed on guidelines to implement the plan, would make additional loans to back interest payments on the debt that remains.

## Inflation in Yugoslavia hits 600 per cent

BELGRADE (R) — Yugoslav authorities, grappling with fresh ethnic Albanian unrest in the southern province of Kosovo, suffered an economic blow Friday with official data showing that inflation hit 600 per cent in May.

The Federal Bureau of Statistics said annual inflation rocketed by a monthly record of 111.5 percentage points to stand at 601.6 per cent, compared with 49.1 per cent in April. In May 1988, inflation was 149 per cent.

The setback coincided with a strike by 3,500 shipyard workers in the Adriatic port of Split and other industrial disputes, which represented the first major labour challenge to Prime Minister Ante

Markovic since he took office in March.

Markovic's government has predicted that inflation would reach 945 per cent for the whole of 1989. But some Yugoslav and Western economists say it may soar above 1,000 per cent and a significant drop will not come until next year.

Dinar loses value almost each day

Apart from runaway inflation, Yugoslavia is burdened with a foreign debt of at least \$21 billion, 16 per cent unemployment, low productivity in many indus-

tries and a currency which loses value almost daily.

The dinar was quoted Friday at more than 14,300 to the dollar, compared with 10,500 a month ago and about 1,900 a year ago. Economists say a new 100,000-dinar bank note which appeared last week will soon have to be replaced by an even larger bill.

Markovic, a Croat who advocates market-based policies, has refused to introduce curbs on wages and prices. He says this may increase inflation in the short term but it will gradually force companies to discipline themselves to avoid bankruptcy.

The former government of Branko Mikulic, who resigned in June 28,

December in a parliamentary showdown over inflation, provoked strikes and street demonstrations by workers when he tried to impose wage restrictions.

Markovic told visiting American businessmen last week his government's relaxation of import controls was already helping to increase industrial production, stimulate exports and improve supplies on the domestic market.

A delegation of the International Monetary Fund began negotiations with Yugoslav officials Thursday intended to produce a new stand-by credit accord for Yugoslavia, to replace a one-year arrangement which expires June 28.

## South Korean auto exports fall sharply

SEOUL (AP) — South Korea's exports of motor vehicles fell sharply between January and April, while domestic sales increased significantly, the trade and industry ministry has reported.

During the first four months of 1989, the Korean auto industry

exported 134,000 motor vehicles, down 31.7 per cent from a year ago, the report said.

Officials said the tally included 130,556 passenger cars, about 75 per cent of which went to the United States. The portion going to America a year ago was 85 per cent.

### TO LET

A two-storey building to be let as offices for commercial, trading, insurance, consular, or doctors. Located in Shmeisani, behind the Ministry of Industry and Trade. Property in excellent condition and has private parking. Telephone lines available. Each floor could be let separately if needed.

Please phone: 664988

The number of locally assembled motor vehicles sold at home jumped 27.2 per cent from a year ago to 202,000, of which 125,000 were cars and 77,000 commercial vehicles like trucks and buses.

Domestic sales were growing due to rising income among Koreans and the addition of new models. Auto makers have stressed marketing at home over export sales because domestic sales generated better profit margins,

the officials said. Officials predicted it would be difficult to attain the 1989 domestic and export sales goal of 1.51 million vehicles, including 650,000 vehicles for exports.

Sluggish exports contributed to a 36 per cent drop in Korea's trade surplus to \$1.65 billion between January and April, the trade and industry ministry also reported.

Korean exports to the United States, the country's biggest market, rose only 0.8 per cent from a year ago to \$4.49 billion, the ministry said.

The big increase in imports was attributed partly to Korean efforts to avoid trade friction with the United States by reducing its bilateral trade surplus. The surplus was about \$10 billion last year.

Korea's trade deficit with Japan during the first four months widened to \$1.41 billion, an increase of 7.6 per cent from a year ago.

Korean exports to Japan rose 14.7 per cent to \$4.09 billion and imports rose 12.7 per cent to \$5.5 billion.

### JORDAN PHOSPHATE MINES CO., LTD.

#### INVITATION TO TENDER 18F/89

JPMC announces the invitation to tender No. 18F/89 (for the supply, supervision of erection and commissioning of 4 electrical rotary blast-hole drill for Eshidiya mine).

The tender documents are available at JPMC offices in Amman, supply department until 3rd July 1989, application for documents should be accompanied by a non-refundable fee of JD (180).

The closing date for submission tenders is 12.00 hours local time Monday, 17, July 1989.

Wasef Azar  
MANAGING DIRECTOR

### VACANCY

The Spanish embassy in Amman has the following vacant position:

Post : Administrative Officer.  
Salary : Assigned by the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Working hours : six days, 37 hours weekly.

#### Requirements:

1. Typewriting in Spanish and Arabic, and knowledge of administrative practices.
2. Sound knowledge of Arabic, English and Spanish languages.

Curriculum vitae should be addressed to the Spanish Embassy. Those who are interested may call this mission within 10 days as from the date of publication of this announcement.

Amman, June 1, 1989.

## Premier tells Algerians to work harder

ALGIERS (R) — Prime Minister Kasdi Merbah has urged Algerians to work harder, saying democratic reforms launched after last October's riots were at stake.

In an interview published Saturday in the official daily El Mondjahid, Merbah said the Algerian economy was plagued by labour unrest, stagnating industrial output and inadequate agricultural growth.

"The economy must be revived. Algerians must work more

intensely and increase their productivity," he said.

Riots last year over deteriorating economic conditions pushed President Chadli Benjedid to accelerate the liberalisation of economic and political life.

But the country remains burdened by a heavy foreign debt, inefficient industries, shortages of consumer goods and one of the world's fastest rates of population growth.

"The worst of the crisis is ahead of us," Merbah said. "It is

only one-fifth of its official value of the black market.

The agency said large quantities of items like jeans, shirts, imitation luxury goods, electronics and household appliances were being smuggled in from places like Taiwan, Spain, Turkey, France, Libya and Tunisia.

"These articles are sold at prohibitive prices so that colossal profits are being made. Why should young people seek productive or administrative jobs when they can earn 10 or 20 times as much on the black market?" APS said.

### Crackdown on black market

On Wednesday, Algeria has ordered a major crackdown on black marketers who are making colossal profits from the sale of contraband goods.

Frontier controls are to be tightened, all merchants will have to register, goods seized by customs will be destroyed or re-exported and "income of doubtful origin" will be heavily taxed.

### AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

		Saturday, June 3, 1989	
		Central Bank official rates	
U.S. dollar	Buy 561.6	Sell 567.6	French franc 85.2
Pound Sterling	900.6	909.6	Japanese yen (for 100) 399.8
Deutschmark	289.1	292.0	Dutch guilder 256.5
Swiss franc	336.6	340.0	Swedish crown 85.4
			Italian lira (for 100) 59.8
			Belgian franc (for 10) 138.3
			138.7

### Weekly Amman Financial Market trading

AMMAN (I.T.) — The following table summarises trading activities at the Amman Financial Market during Tuesday, May 27, '89 and Wednesday May 31, '89. (Figures in Jordanian dinars).

Name of company Number of shares Volume of trade Opening price Closing price Par value

Banking and financial institutions				
Industrial Development Bank	2466	4104	1,650	1,680
Petra Bank	18975	43743	2,400	2,300
Jordan Islamic Bank	1335	2654	1,950	2,050
Jordan Kuwait Bank	9241	13325	1,420	1,450
Jordan Gulf Bank	58403	70052	1,240	1,180
Housing Bank	143	270	1,830	1,850
Arab Jordan Investment Bank	2300	5451	2,370	2,370
Cairo Amman Bank	1390	42395	30,000	30,500
Bank of Jordan	2284	36146	15,400	15,200
Arab Bank	5830	870450	149,500	120,500
Jordan National Bank	11116	27411	2,450	2,460
Jordan Finance House for Development				1,000
Jordan Investment and Finance Corporation	10130	22793	2,570	2,500
National Financial Investments	750	1393	1,870	1,850
National Portfolio Securities	25400	25563	0,980	1,000
Arab Finance Corporation (Jordan)	13306	22812	1,710	1,710
Jordan Securities Corporation				1,000
Real Estate Financing Corporation	40	700	17,500	17,500
Beit Al Mal Saving & Investment for Housing	900	948	1,080	1,030

Insurance and reinsurance	
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## Davis hits first Red cycle in 30 years

CINCINNATI (AP) — Eric Davis became the first Cincinnati Red to hit for the cycle in 30 years when he drove in six runs Friday night in a 9-4 victory over the San Diego Padres.

Not even a sore leg could Davis out of the record books with a single, double, triple and homerun. He coaxed all the speed he could out of his injured left hamstring on a seven-inning triple.

"I didn't know how the hamstring was going to hold up until I got to second," Davis said. "Once I got to second base, I made up my mind."

Davis doubled home Barry Larkin in the first inning, singled him home in the third and hit a three-run homer off Walt Terrell, 4-6, in the fourth to give the Reds a seven-run cushion.

Davis' seventh-inning triple to centre off reliever Dave Leiper made him the first Cincinnati player to hit for the cycle since Frank Robinson on May 2, 1959, against Los Angeles.

Elsewhere Friday, it was: San Francisco 7, Atlanta 6; Houston 1, Los Angeles 0; New York 3, Pittsburgh; Chicago 5, St. Louis 2; Montreal 2, Philadelphia 1.

### Giants 7, Braves 6

Rick Reuschel won his seventh straight decision to become baseball's first 10-game winner, and major-league leader Kevin Mitchell hit two home runs to lead San Francisco.

### Astros 1, Dodgers 0

Mike Scott pitched a four-hitter, and an error by Los Angeles pitcher Fernando Valenzuela gave Houston the only run as the Astros extended their winning streak to eight games.

### Mets 3, Pirates 2

Dave Magadan hit a two-run

homer with one out in the bottom of the 11th inning to give New York the victory. Randy Kramer, 1-2, got the win.

### Cubs 5, Cardinals 2

Rick Sutcliffe won for the third straight time in pitching Chicago to its 12th victory in 16 games as the Cubs handed St. Louis its fifth straight loss.

### Expos 2, Phillies 1

Andres Galarraga's infield single with two outs in the top of the 13th inning scored Mike Adepte as the Montreal Expos sent the Philadelphia Phillies to their ninth straight loss.

### American League

DETROIT (AP) — Rookie Bob Milacki gave up two hits in 8 1/3 innings Friday night as the Orioles beat the Detroit Tigers 4-1 for their fifth straight victory.

The Orioles, leading the American League East at 28-22, won for the 15th time in their last 20 games. Baltimore did not win its 28th game last season until July 10.

"We had some tough times, but this is a good time to get on a roll," Milacki said. "Everybody's confidence is up and it's early. That should help us down the road."

In his entire professional career, Milacki has never lost to a Detroit team — either in the minor leagues or in the majors. Milacki made his big league debut against Detroit last Sept. 18 and Baltimore beat the Tigers 2-0 on a one-hitter with relief help from Tom Niedenfuer.

In other games Friday, it was: Toronto 7, Boston 2; Minnesota 8, Chicago 0; New York 3, Milwaukee 2; Texas 9, Seattle 5; Kansas City 4, California 0; Cleveland 5, Oakland 3.

## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN  
AND OMAR SHARIF  
© 1989 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

### PESSIMISTS PROSPER

Both vulnerable. South deals.

**NORTH**

♦ 7 8 4

♦ 6 3 2

♦ J 10 4

♦ A Q J 3

**WEST**

♦ A 10 6 2

♦ 7

♦ 9 5 4

♦ 9 8 7

♦ 6 5 3 2

♦ 6 6 5

♦ K 10 9 4 2

**SOUTH**

♦ K Q 9 7 5 3

♦ A K Q

♦ Q A K Q

♦ 7

**THE BIDDING:**

South: West: North: East:

2 ♦ Pass: 3 ♦ Pass

4 ♦ NT: Pass: 5 ♦ Pass

6 ♦ Pass: Pass: Pass

**Opening lead:** Nine of ♦

**Beware of hands that seem to be**

**laydown.** Think of the goalie in an

**ice hockey game who turns away**

**seemingly unstoppable shots, only**

**to have the puck trickle slowly,**

**between his pads and have the game**

**slip away.**

**We like North's decision to raise**

**to three spades.** When partner opens

**with a demand bid, three trumps to**

**an honor and 1 1/2 quick tricks are**

**more than ample for a raise. That**

**declarer was guilty of fast fin-**

**gers—he should have taken time to**

**study the hand before playing to the**

**second trick. If trumps are 3-1, the**

**hand is a virtual clamer; only wild**

**distribution could defend the slam.**

**Realistically, declarer should have**

**concentrated on a 4-0 break as the**

**most likely threat to his contract.**

**The spade spots are such that**

**South can handle even that distribution.**

**To the second trick he should**

**lead the king of trumps from hand.**

**If West shows out, declarer can take**

**the marked finesse against East's**

**ten. (If East holds up, declarer con-**

**tinues with a trump to the jack, and**

**can enter dummy with the ace of**

**clubs to take the trump finesse.)**

**If West turns up with all the trumps,**

**declarer continues by finessing the**

**eight, and again the defenders are**

**held to our trump trick.**

## SPORTS IN BRIEF

### Boat racers return to scene of accident

MIAMI (AP) — Hydroplane racers Jim Kropfeld and Scott Pierce returned to the waters of Miami Friday for the first time since their near-fatal accident last year. Kropfeld, driver of the Miss Budweiser boat, and Pierce, who piloted Mr. Pringles, are competing in the second event of the HFC hydroplane series, with the finals set for Sunday. Kropfeld, 48, turned in the fastest qualifying time at a speed of 129 MPH (207 KMPH). He admitted last year's accident, which left him with a broken neck, certainly was on his mind. "I was under control. I was in the exact same lane where it happened last year, so it did pop up in my mind," he said. Pierce, 33, did not miss a race last season despite almost drowning at Miami. He averaged 119 MPH (191 KMPH) in Friday's heats. He, too, had 1988 on his mind.

### Detroit beats Chicago to NBA finals

CHICAGO (R) — The Detroit Pistons beat the Chicago Bulls 103-94 Friday to win the best-of-seven games Eastern Conference championship series 4-2 and advance to the National Basketball Association (NBA) finals against the Los Angeles Lakers. Isiah Thomas scored 17 of his 33 points in the fourth quarter to lead Detroit to the NBA finals for the second consecutive year against the Lakers. The Lakers won the best-of-seven series 4-2 last year. The finals will begin this Tuesday. Chicago's Michael Jordan scored 32 points in the series final after being held to 23 and 18 in the fourth and fifth games. Chicago played virtually the entire game without starting forward Scottie Pippen, who was elbowed in the left eye in the first minute of the game by Detroit center Bill Laimbeer.

### Kenyan wins men's 800 metres

PROVO, Utah (R) — Olympic champion Paul Ereng of Kenya came from 12 metres off the pace to easily win the men's 800 metres and Americans Dennis Mitchell and Dawn Sowell ran the fastest men's and women's 200 metres in the world this year Friday at the U.S. collegiate championships. Ereng, who attends the University of Virginia, was timed in one minute, 47.50 seconds and he blitzed the final 300 metres to defeat Dieudonne Kzwira of Burundi and the University of Nebraska by three metres. While Ereng won a tactical race, the sprinters blazed, aided by the rarefied air at the Brigham Young University track, which is 1,381 metres above sea level. Mitchell, the fourth-place finisher in the Olympic 10 metres, exploded to an early lead and won the men's 200 metres by two metres in 20.09 seconds. The victory avenged a false-start disqualification for the University of Florida student in Thursday's 100-metre qualifying.

### Europeans start hunting for Brazilian players

RIO DE JANEIRO (R) — With their national championships over or almost through, the rich European soccer clubs have opened their "hunting season" for Brazilian players, bringing panic to local team officials. "Just now that we are about to enter the playoffs of the Rio De Janeiro state league, these foreign teams come here to mess with... our top players," Flamengo club president Gilberto Cardoso complained Friday in a radio interview. Cardoso's worries are justified: Ever since mighty Bayern Munich of West Germany offered star striker Bebeto an estimated two million dollars for a three-year contract, a month ago, the player has not been the same, critics say. Bebeto, whose finishing is clinical, remains the top individual scorer of the Rio league, with 15 goals, but only scored four times in the last eight matches. Coincidence or not, after the Germans made the offer.

### Maradona discussing move to Marseille

MARSEILLE (AP) — Officials of the soccer club Olympique de Marseille said Saturday they are negotiating with Argentinian superstar Diego Maradona for a possible move from Napoli of Italy, his current team. "Diego Maradona is completely in agreement to come play for O.M.," Jean-Louis Levraud, a member of the team's management committee, said on France-Inter radio. "The conditions for his arrival have even been settled." Levraud said the transfer fee under discussion was about 40 million francs (about \$6 million). The French sports newspaper L'Equipe broke news of the negotiations in its Saturday editions, saying top team officials had travelled to Naples to meet with Maradona Friday night, and that Maradona was expected in Marseille next Thursday to talk with team president Bernard Tapie. General manager Michel Hildago was quoted by L'Equipe as saying he was convinced the 28-year-old star wanted to make the move, but that it was not clear the negotiations would succeed. Tapie was quoted by the French news agency Agence France-Presse as saying the news leak could endanger the talks.

### Soccer fans lifted horse off its feet

SHEFFIELD (R) — Soccer fans outside the British stadium where 95 people died in a crowd surge last April were so tightly packed that they lifted a huge police horse off its feet, the inquiry into the disaster heard Friday. Inspector Paul Hand-Davis, the senior mounted policeman outside the Hillsborough stadium at Sheffield, said his horse Hussar, which weighs more than half a tonne, was immobilized by the crush of fans struggling to enter the ground. "The horse was lifted by the crowd. He started to sway and I could tell his feet were not on the ground," he said. Crowd pressure outside the ground where Liverpool and Nottingham Forest were playing was so great that police threw open exit gates to let the fans in. In the surge that followed inside Hillsborough 95 Liverpool supporters were crushed to death against railings on overcrowded terraces.

## YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

by Thomas Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Institute

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** Venus enters Cancer today which puts the focus on home and security. Harness your emotions during this time, and you will make your surroundings more comfortable. Feelings can be sentimental and introspective.

**ARIES** (Apr. 20 to May 19) Take time out to communicate with distant relatives and friends. Tap off a wonderful weekend with outdoor activities.

**TAURUS** (May 20 to June 21) Avoid someone loud, talkative and bossy. Use your know-how to save money on home improvements. Redefine house rules to siblings.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 21) Volunteering a negative opinion can produce bad vibes, even though you speak the truth. Consider the outcome of your statements.

**MOON CHILDREN** (June 22 to Jul. 21) You can enjoy a sense of love and belonging. Spiritual friends bring out the best in you. Work hard to use your knowledge.

**LEO** (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) A sincere compliment can lift the spirits of those around you. Eliminate burdens that are not yours. A new style of living is emerging.

**PISCES** (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) It is a great day to move about socially. Be gentle and understanding when your views do not meet eye-to-eye with others.

Print answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumble: CHIDE ANOKE DONKEY WATER  
Answer: That conceited guy thinks that if he had never been born, the world would do this—WONDER WHY

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## Graf awaits stiff competition

PARIS (R) — On a day when beating the rain was more of a challenge than beating her opponent, top-seeded Steffi Graf swept into the fourth round of the French Open tennis championships Thursday.

But Tim Mayotte, the seventh-seed among the men, came out cold after a long delay and lost to unseeded Ronald Agenor Hain 3-6, 7-5, 5-7, 6-2.

No. 2 Boris Becker, playing more aggressively after 5 1/2-hour rain interruption, beat Jeremy Bates of Britain 7-5, 6-1, 6-2 and joined the last 16 players still in the tournament.

He was joined by Jay Berger, who became the first U.S. player to reach the fourth round by downing Jaime Yzaga of Peru, 6-4, 6-2, 6-2, 6-2.

In the women's field, no. 10 Helen Kelesi of Canada defeated Gretchen Mager of the United States 6-4, 2-6, 6-3; no. 9 Katerina Maleeva of Bulgaria downed Marina Pawlik of West Germany 4-6, 6-1, 6-2; and no. 8 Conchita Martinez of Spain 6-3, 6-3.

In the 18-year-old Ann from Grove City, Ohio, has deliberately avoided giving her parents the good news.

"I haven't even talked to them this week. Hopefully they'll see it in the newspapers," Grossman said Friday after beating Japan's Akiko Kijimuta 6-4, 6-1 before rain interrupted play at Roland Garros.

"We're a pretty superstitious family," Grossman said. "When I'm winning we don't talk to each other on the phone. When I first arrived in Paris, I talked to them, but I haven't called them since. I hope they've seen that I've been winning."

"It was awfully cold out there because of the rain

## Poland polls today

**WARSAW (R)** — The government and Solidarity both sought to cool the heated pre-election atmosphere as Poland prepared for Sunday's historic poll which will allow the opposition into parliament for the first time in four decades.

Solidarity leader Lech Walesa called on his free trade union to be patient despite allegations that government agents had tried to interfere with the union's poster campaign.

"On both sides pre-election demagoguery is causing us too much disorder. The elections will end and we'll have to solve Poland's problems with the set-up which we get," Walesa said in an eve-of-poll television interview.

Polish leader General Wojciech Jaruzelski, in a broadcast Friday evening, also criticised both government and opposition for excesses in their pre-election rhetoric.

He proposed that a "broad coalition," be created after the two-stage elections June 4 and 18

to grapple with Poland's pressing problems, including a \$39 billion foreign debt and inflation rising towards 100 per cent.

But he did not make clear whether opposition figures would be offered government posts.

Solidarity and the government agreed after round-table talks in April that the opposition would stand for 161 of the 460 seats in the Sejm (lower house), with the rest decided by internal contests in the ruling Communist Party and its allies.

All parties can compete for the 100 seats in the less powerful Senate (upper house).

Solidarity election rallies were continuing up to the last minute Saturday, but the government, whose candidates have appeared

less keen to go on the hustings, seemed to be relying on its domination of television and radio coverage.

Communist Party spokesman Jan Bisztyga said Friday that Solidarity had rejected a proposal to ban campaigning over the weekend.

The party's daily Trybuna Ludu Saturday delivered another swinging attack on Solidarity for dallying with extremists who would like to call in question Poland's foreign policy — by implication, its alliance with the Soviet Union.

Nevertheless, editor Jerzy Majka said: "It would be good if none of the sides won in these elections." An optimal result would give the government enough power in parliament to rule, and the opposition enough to vet its actions, he suggested.

In the elections, Poland's 27 million voters will face between four and seven ballot papers, depending on area, and will vote

by crossing out names they do not want. Where no candidate wins over half of valid votes, the top two contenders go into the second round.

The poll is the first of its kind in Eastern Europe since communist regimes took over the area after World War II.

They go further than partially liberalised elections in the Soviet Union in March, although diplomats said the fact they were being held at all clearly stemmed from the new policies of Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

The unprecedented nature of the election and uncertainty over how Poles will vote has made it unclear when definitive results will be known, but candidates expected early returns by Monday, with complete first round results possibly Tuesday afternoon.

On the eve of the vote, many Poles were sceptical about whether it would change anything.

A 25-year-old Warsaw Polytechnic student said: "I'm planning to vote for Solidarity. If

there's even the smallest chance

of diminishing the influence of those in power, then we should give it a try."

But a 24-year-old lorry driver said he would not vote: "It'll

make no difference who gets in. Once they get in, they'll start travelling to the West and living it up. Faces change, but the situation doesn't improve."



Polish opposition leader Lech Walesa on the campaign trail inviting Poles to "ride the Solidarity tank to freedom."

## Uno presents cabinet pledging 'clean start'

**TOKYO (AP)** — Prime Minister Sosuke Uno convened the first meeting of his new cabinet Saturday, presented it to Emperor Akihito and denied he would be an interim leader or puppet of scandal-tainted figures in the ruling party.

Parliament elected Uno as Japan's 47th prime minister Friday, ending the ruling Liberal Democratic Party's (LDP) five-week search for a candidate unblemished by an influence-peddling scandal that has rocked the government.

Opposition parties and many analysts said they expect Uno to last only a few months. They are speculating that he may depart this summer if the Liberal Democrats fare poorly in an election expected in July for half the seats in the Upper house, or perhaps in October when the party holds a national convention.

But the 66-year-old former

foreign minister appeared confident during an 80-minute news conference after his first cabinet meeting, saying he expected to be a strong, successful prime minister.

"I highly admire the former prime minister for his achievements... but I'll do it my own way," Uno said.

Earlier in the day, Uno and former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita, who formally resigned Friday to accept responsibility for the scandal, went to the Imperial Palace and, with deep bows, presented the 26-members of the new cabinet to Emperor Akihito.

Uno has pledged a "clean start" for Japanese politics, stained by the scandal in which the Recruit Co. sought to buy favours from ranking politicians and government bureaucrats with political donations and bargain-priced stock.

The most pressing task for Uno will be to reverse unpre-



Sosuke Uno

paredly low public approval ratings for his party and ensure an LDP victory in next month's elections for the Upper House of Parliament.

The LDP has controlled both houses of the Diet, or parliament, since 1955, but political observers say the party could lose its hold on government as a result of the Recruit scandal.

The selection of Uno, who was foreign minister in the previous administration, was made by the LDP's traditional power brokers.

Prices of some basic foods and services.

The unease calmed in Lagos Thursday was disrupted in the evening when riots erupted in Ikenja, a Lagos suburb, and later spread into nearby slums. However, police said order was later restored.

Witnesses said market women, school children and the jobless joined the students as early as 6 a.m. (0500 GMT). They erected barricades around government buildings and blocked major streets. The rioters were shouting slogans against the government, witnesses said.

The congress had also Wednesday issued a statement demanding "realistic minimum wage to ease the hardship in Nigerian homes."

The protests began May 24 at a university in the midwestern city of Benin, 270 kilometres east of Lagos and quickly spread to other campuses all over the country. By Wednesday morning, authorities had closed 13 academic institutions because of demonstrations.

The protesters say they are against the government's strict adherence to an austerity programme demanded by Western creditors. The austerity programme has caused sharp rises in the cost of living.

Witnesses said the rioters disrupted ongoing general certificate of education examinations in schools, and freed an unknown number of suspects being taken

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However, a senior official of the International Monetary Fund said Nigeria's "economic crisis is not serious."

Gordon E. Gondwe, IMF deputy director in charge of Africa, told journalists "there is a social problem in Nigeria because the pains of the structural adjustment programme are now widely spread. The poor do not benefit at the same pace as the people in privileged position."

Gondwe spoke in Nigeria's future capital, Abuja, where he attended the African Development Bank 25th anniversary.

they were responsible for the mess that provoked military intervention in December 1983.

The military then forbade political activities and only lifted the ban early last month.

In another development, one of the new political parties formed after the ban was lifted issued a statement Thursday supporting opposing the government's economic policies.

Pascal Bayan, president of the Labour Congress, however, condemned looting and damage to property.

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